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WHOLE #769

MAJOR VINCENT AND HIS QUEER SECRET SERVICE

What New Man of Mystery Really Told to Sierra Passengers, and What He Now Denies.

"The statements made by Major Vincent about stationing a large body of troops in Honolulu, and about his mission to the Islands was repeated to me by a gentleman to whom he made it on board the Sierra," said W. E. Castle, who was himself a passenger on the steamer, last night. "The gentleman said that the statements were made under no seal of secrecy, and that he considered it most extraordinary that a man upon that kind of a mission should talk so freely about it."

"Major Vincent did say to me, in effect, what was printed in the Advertiser this morning," said Land Commissioner Pratt yesterday. "There were some slight differences, but these were not material so far as the story went. As to what else he told me, it would not be proper for me to discuss that, if it is true."

"Major" P. C. Vincent, who registers from Washington, D. C., told an Advertiser reporter Wednesday night on the Young hotel that he was attached to the United States Secret or Special service, that he was here on a special mission, and that he would not be ready to talk about this mission until he had made his official report to Washington, which he intimated would be in about six weeks. But Major Vincent called the reporter, who was about to leave him, back to say this: "But I will say this much: 'If you people will only wait until I have fulfilled the purpose of my mission here, and made my official report, you need not be surprised if you have fifteen or twenty thousand troops here.'"

Yesterday, probably not liking the looks of what he said in cold type, the Major made statements to both the afternoon papers denying that he had said anything of the kind. He is not the first man who has found himself confronted with regret because he had

discovered that things look differently printed.

Whether Major Vincent is a secret service man or whether he is not is, of course, known only to himself and to the authorities at Washington. He is certainly not connected with the army of the United States.

"There is no such man in the army now," said Quartermaster and Captain Humphrey yesterday. "Who is he? I don't know. And I don't know whether he is a secret service man—but he is a bird."

Really, it would seem to be up to Major Vincent. But, that aside, it is a fact that Vincent told more than one of the passengers on the Sierra, which steamer had the honor to bring him to Honolulu, that he was connected with the secret service—the army secret service, in the way he put it on the boat, but he changed from that in talking to the Advertiser reporter. He was even solicitous about the matter, saying that the Bulletin had mixed him up in this regard, and that he wanted to have the thing straightened out. The Major seems to be afflicted with something of a chronic case of "wanting the thing straightened out."

Anyhow, he was very specific in his statement to the Advertiser's representative that he was not in any way connected with the army, but was connected with the secret or special service of the United States.

The Advertiser can not be held at fault, of course, if the Major has given his business away, nor is it blamable if he is hiding a purpose so deep as to be absolutely fathomless under this airy persiflage about having "fifteen or twenty thousand troops stationed here."

The fact remains that the Major talked to more men on the boat than Mr. Pratt about his "mission" here, and the importance of it. He even said that he was a graduate of West Point. There are many graduates of West Point, and these are known to be engaged in various occupations.

The Major was so generally communicative on the boat about his affairs that it came to be a standing joke among the male passengers. The British and Colonialists were particularly amused that a man in his capacity charged with such important concerns should be so very communicative to mere wayfarers.

Some of them gathered that the Major was carefully concealing an

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ADMIRAL TOGO WILL CRUISE TO AMERICA

(Associated Press Cablegram.)

TOKIO, February 2.—Admiral Togo will take two cruisers to America in April.



ADMIRAL TOGO.

Admiral Togo was in Honolulu harbor in the historic times before annexation, and there is some reason to believe that his mission then was not friendly to the existing order. If he comes to Honolulu this time, as he probably will, he will come in a different spirit and with the prestige of his glory behind him. It is needless to say that he will be enthusiastically welcomed by a very large proportion of Honolulu's population.

ALEXANDER IS NAMED A FAMOUS REGIMENT

Put Among Government San Juan Heroes Aboard Employees Over 70 Years Old. the Transport Sheridan.

(Mail Special to the Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 20.—In a statement to the Speaker of the House, enumerating government employees, now over 70 years of age, Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor forwards the name of Prof. W. D. Alexander, of Honolulu, as for four years employed as an assistant of the Coast and Geodetic Survey at Honolulu at a salary of \$3000. His age is given at 72.

LIGHTHOUSE MATTER.

Representative Mann, of Illinois, has made a report from the Committee on Interstate Commerce of Delegate Kubio's bill "for the building of a new lighthouse and range lights at Honolulu," which bill is now on the House calendar. The report says:

Honolulu harbor is the harbor of the Hawaiian Islands. The entrance to that harbor, which is unsatisfactory and dangerous, is now being improved by the government in accordance with the provisions of the last river and harbor act. By this improvement it is proposed to cut off and excavate that portion of the bend of land adjoining the harbor upon which the present lighthouse now stands, so that it becomes absolutely necessary to move the lighthouse from its present site to another point so as to be used. The commerce entering Honolulu harbor comprises not only the commerce between the United States and the Hawaiian Islands, but also many vessels stopping there in passing between the United States and the Oriental countries. It is also essential that new range lights be established at this harbor, for the reason that the existing range lights can often not be distinguished by entering vessels from the ordinary lights of the city.

Your committee at the last Congress made a report on a similar bill, recommending that the improvement be authorized. Your committee has taken oral testimony including the evidence of members of the Lighthouse Board, and has also received a letter from the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor (which is hereto attached) favoring this bill.

Department of Commerce and Labor, Office of the Secretary, Washington, Dec. 19, 1905.

Sir: This Department has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter dated December 16, 1905, enclosing a copy of H. R. bill No. 5293, "To provide for the improvement of Honolulu harbor."

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With well nigh a thousand souls aboard, the United States army transport Sheridan felt her way into the harbor a little before 4 p. m. yesterday and went to the Oceanic wharf. The naval ships were unavailable to receive the troopship, the French ship Champlain lying in one and the other being needed to dock the S. S. Siberia today. The liner is too deep to be accommodated elsewhere.

The Sheridan notwithstanding dirty weather, made very fair time down. She left San Francisco on the 25th inst., two hours before the S. S. Sierra, which arrived on Wednesday.

The troops aboard the Sheridan consist of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, a famous colored regiment which saw a lot of service and bore itself most creditably during the war with Spain. The band of the Twenty-fourth is said to be one of the best in the service.

The gallant Twenty-fourth distinguished itself particularly at San Juan. Its passage of "Bloody Bend" was the beginning of a record of soldierly heroism seldom if ever surpassed in American history. Lieutenant Colonel Liscum who commanded at the time fell badly shot. The Third brigade of which the 24th formed a part had four commanders in eleven minutes. The other regiments comprising the brigade were the Ninth and Thirtieth Regulars.

When the Twenty-fourth, and the other two regiments arrived at the foot of San Juan, they halted as they saw the hill and realized the charge to be made. The men of the Twenty-fourth began to sing the "Star Spangled Banner" and took off their hats in the very teeth of the enemy that was harassing them with deadly fire. The charge up the hill in the face of a stubborn, fiery resistance, crowned the participants with imperishable laurels.

The Twenty-fourth has since seen service in the Philippines.

The enlisted men and non-commissioned officers of the regiment total 891. Colonel George P. Borden, the commander of the Twenty-fourth was here in 1858, his father being a minister here. He was a bit of a boy then but says that he distinctly remembers tramping all over the hills around town with his father, who was a great walker.

The colonel and his dad came to Honolulu by way of Panama and returned to New York via the Horn. No land was sighted for 120 days.

MAY COMPLAIN TO PARLIAMENT

English Policy Holders Want Voice in New York Mutual Life Concerns.

(Associated Press Cablegrams.)

LONDON, February 2.—The English policy holders in the Mutual Life, of New York, have demanded representation on the home board of the company, and the deposit of securities in Great Britain equal in amount to the policies held here. If their demands are not granted the policy holders will bring the matter to the attention of Parliament.

THE TRANSPORT MEADE DAMAGED BY FIRE

SAN FRANCISCO, February 2.—The damage to the United States transport Meade amounted to twenty-five dollars. The vessel will sail for Manila on Saturday.

Yesterday afternoon's cables stated that fire had broken out in the hold of the Meade, which was lying in the dock at San Francisco preparing to start for Manila. It was said in that cablegram that three lives had been lost in the fire, and that fifty-eight people had been injured. The loss on the goods in the vessel's hold was said to amount to \$100,000. There seems to be a discrepancy here, which later advices will perhaps explain. The Meade has been out of commission for two or three years, and has only lately been overhauled.

A private cablegram received in Honolulu yesterday contained the information that among the dead in the Meade disaster was Third Officer George Wallis, who was well known and who had many friends in Honolulu.

COAL MINERS MAY STRIKE.

INDIANAPOLIS, February 2.—The coal miners and the mine operators, in conference, have disagreed, and the advance in wages demanded by the miners has been refused. A tremendous strike is possible as a consequence of the disagreement.

MAY HAVE PICKED UP SURVIVORS FROM VALENCIA

SAN FRANCISCO, February 2.—There is a possibility that a lifeboat containing sixteen more survivors from the wrecked steamer Valencia has been picked up by the Canadian liner, Empress of Japan.

METCALF ORDERS INQUIRY.

WASHINGTON, February 2.—Secretary of Commerce and Labor Metcalf has ordered that a searching government inquiry into the loss of the steamer Valencia on the coast of Vancouver Island be made.

SENATE PASSES THE BILL GIVING ALASKA DELEGATE

WASHINGTON, February 2.—The Senate has passed the bill giving Alaska a Delegate in Congress.

Thus the great northwest territory acquired from Russia and for a long time deemed worthless save as a place for fur seals and fisheries, takes a step toward the class of the regularly organized territories of the United States. Alaska has been fighting for a Delegate since the country sprang into sudden importance with the discoveries of gold in the Klondike region. These discoveries have been followed by others that have tended to increase the population of the country, and to compel Congress to extend the American system over it.

AFTERNOON REPORT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 1.—The President in a proclamation has set aside public lands at or near Diamond Head, Kupikiki-o and Punchbowl Hill at Honolulu for military purposes until it can be determined by a survey what portions of the lands described will be required for permanent military reservations by the United States Government. The War Department has no thought of establishing any considerable force of troops in the Islands.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 1.—The Senate has authorized the construction of steam tender for lighthouse service among the Hawaiian Islands and other Pacific Islands.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 1.—Major General John C. Bates has been nominated for Lieutenant General to succeed Chaffee as chief of staff.

EMINENT NAMES IN THE TOWN TOPICS LIBEL SUIT

NEW YORK, January 25.—In the "Town Topics" libel case against Norman Hapgood, editor of Collier's Weekly, Robert J. Collier, publisher of Collier's Weekly, was the first witness today. He said: "In 'Town Topics' in October, 1904, headed 'The Most Degraded Paper in America' I saw an article referring to Miss Alice Roosevelt, only by her first name. When I went down to the office I called Hapgood's attention to that article and told him I thought it was the vilest article ever printed in any newspaper and suggested that he write something about it. He did so, in an editorial, about it. He did so, in an editorial, about it. He did so, in an editorial, about it. (Continued on Page 4.)"

OF INTEREST TO THE PLANTERS

(From Official Sources.)

WASHINGTON, January 18.—Interest still centers in the immigration plans of Hawaii and Mr. Atkinson is expected to get his official papers from the State Department this week. These will accredit him to the governments of such foreign countries as he may find it necessary to visit. It is a matter for regret that the plantation interests in Honolulu do not seem alive to the full extent of its importance, and it would have been a good plan if two or three of the representatives of the sugar interests had been here with Mr. Atkinson to learn the ideas of the Administration and of the Bureau of Immigration. Such gentlemen could then have returned to Honolulu and enlightened their colleagues to such an extent that Mr. Atkinson's mission would be materially strengthened by greater co-operation from home. They have much to learn, but do not seem able to grasp the vastness of the project.

It is amusing, to say the least, to hear of the lukewarm interest shown in giving even one acre of land to a family. You have a large undeveloped area of territory which must be settled upon and developed. In an immigrant secures a lease of one acre of ground for the use of his family, and that lease expires in fifteen or twenty years, how will the family then exist? Even if the acre be freehold, the family would starve. Freedom for American citizens is demanded, and the lands of Hawaii will be so distributed that prospective immigrants will be assured of their freedom, provided they are willing to till the soil. Instead of one acre, there is a far greater prospect of each family ultimately becoming the possessor of ten acres. That is all.

GOVERNOR CARTER IS VERY MUCH BETTER

"Governor Carter is very much better," said Dr. Judd last night. "His temperature was normal this morning, but rose slightly during the afternoon. He wanted to get up today, and wants to eat everything in sight. I shall keep him in bed until all of his fever is gone."

"Yes, I know that Secretary Atkinson is in San Francisco. There will be no step taken by me to stop him there, or to prevent him coming on home by the Alameda, at least by me." The Governor is recovering apparently, but not with sufficient rapidity to justify the Secretary in remaining longer on the mainland. In fact, it is extremely probable that the Governor will be kept in the house for a week or two yet. After that, probably the trip aboard for a long rest will be considered.

Secretary Atkinson cabled from San Francisco for news late yesterday afternoon, having reached that city at 6:40 p. m. on the Southern Pacific overland flyer. The Secretary was informed of the Governor's condition, and will take the Alameda for Honolulu. When he reaches here he will take charge at once, and then the matter of the Azores trip, which has been postponed to wait his coming, will be taken up, along with other important affairs that have been held in abeyance during Governor Carter's illness.

GOOD HAWAIIAN LEATHER.

Edward J. Bill, representing the Dahl & Eilers Leather Co., of Boston, is in town looking into the Hawaiian leather product. He came to show the manufacturers how to put their product in marketable form. The latest output, he says, meets all the Boston requirements and a regular trade is assured.